While the Government of Bangladesh denies the reports of assistance and support being given by Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence to the United Liberation Front of Assam from Bangladesh territory. The Government continues to pursue the matter with the Government of Bangladesh.

India's Place in Commonwealth

5620. SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to some suggestions made by the President of the Commonwealth of Learning, Canada at New Delhi that India is best placed in Commonwealth to lead all developing nations against manipulation of the developed countries ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof :

(c) whether Government propose to take some initiatives in this regard especially in the context of threats to Indian sovereignty and integrity being created by Pakistan by supporting terrorism across the borders: and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and if not what are the reactions therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) and (b) Government are aware of remarks to this effect made by professor James A. Maraj, President of the Commonwealth of Learning contained in his Convocation Address to the Indira Gandhi National Open University on 16th April, 1994. India has consistently played a leading role in the Commonwealth in articulating the view point of developing countries concerning challenges in a changing world and in fostering socio-economic developmental programmes under the Commonwealth banner that are vital to the intersts of developing countries which comprise the vast majority of Commonwealth States.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) By established convention, issues of a bilateral nature are not raised at Commonwealth meetings. At the same time, at India's behest, the Commoniques issued by the Harare aswellas the Cyprus Commonwealth Summits have reaffirmed strong condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and reiterated the determination of Commonwealth Heads of Government to combat terrorism, whether perpetrated by individuals, groups or states.

Pakistan's Nuclear Programme

5621. DR. ISHWAR CHANDRA GUPTA :
SYED SIBTEY RAZI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to certain reports which appeared in some columns of Press indicating that Pakistan would not roll back its nuclear programme;

(b) if so, what is Government reaction thereto :

(c) whether Government propose to keep this aspect in view for discussion while sending either any delegation to foreign countries in future on any account or take up this issue for discussions with foreign dignitaries when they visit our country in future; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government have seen reported statement-

of the leaders of Pakistan to the effect that Pakistan will not roll back its nuclear programme.

(b) Government constantly monitor all developments having a bearing on India's security and take all necessary measures to safeguard it.

(c) and (d) Government have and will continue to convey its concern at appropriate opportunities to the international community about Pakistan's clandestine weapons-oriented nuclear programme, and nuclear adventurism on the part of Pakistan.

Agreement between Pakistan and China over cooperation in Defence Production

5622. SHRI MATANG SINH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of an agreement between Pakistan and China over the enhancement of cooperation in defence production :

(b) if so, what are the details of the agreement; and

(c) what is the reaction of Government of India in regard thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) and (b) Government are aware of the extensive defence cooperation between China and Pakistan including supply of Chinese aircrafts, missiles and other weapons and transfer of sophisticated arms technology.

(c) Government have on various occasions made known to the Chinese government our concerns regarding the supply of sophisticated weapons and technology to Pakistan beyond its legitimate defence requirements.

Government constantly monitor all developments having a bearing on national security and take necessary measures to safeguard it.

Participants in G-15 Summit

5623. SHRI N. E. BALARAM :
SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD :
SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY :
SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether G-15 Summit was held in New Delhi recently; and

(b) if so, the names of the countries participated, the subjects discussed therein and outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Argentina, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nigeria, Senegal and Zimbabwe in addition to India were represented by the Heads of State/Government. Special Envoys at Ministerial level were sent by the Heads of State/Government of Algeria, Brazil, Egypt, Jamaica, and Venezuela. Peru and Chile were represented by the Personal Representatives of the Heads of State/Government.

The subjects discussed at the Summit included evaluation of the international situation and its implications for developing countries including the role of the United Nations, its restructuring and reorientation; South-South Cooperation ; North-South Dialogue including G-15 dialogue with G-7 countries and future organisation of the work and activities of the G-15.

The main decision taken at the